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HISTORY

of

The First Methodist Episcopal Church Westfield, New Jersey



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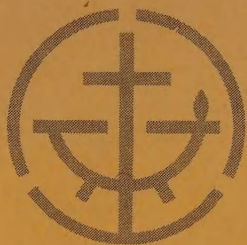
For the Worship of God and the Service of Man

1849 - 1924

Fred E. Miles

9/48

Westfield, N.J.



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HISTORY
of
The First Methodist Episcopal Church
Westfield, New Jersey

1849—1924

HISTORIANS

Edward S. Malmar

J. Herbert Pearsall

Compiled and published under the
authority of the Official Board.

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PREFACE

The facts herein recorded, relating to the history of The First Methodist Episcopal Church of Westfield, New Jersey, have been compiled from the minutes of the Official Board, Quarterly Conferences, the various organizations and reports to the Annual Conferences.

We are particularly indebted to the history published in 1898 for information prior to that date.

We trust that this record of the efforts and sacrifices made in the past by the devoted members of our church and the success which has crowned their labors will move not only this but coming generations to labor in the Master's Vineyard, consecrating their lives in the days of their youth to the principle of tithing of their time and means to His work.

October 1, 1924.



Rev. Charles William Wright, Pastor

LIST OF PASTORS

- 1851-1852—Thomas T. Campfield
1852-1854—Thomas T. Campfield
 William C. Nelson
1855- —James Harris
1855-1857—Joseph H. James
1857-1859—Benjamin O. Parvin
1859-1860—Jeremiah Kowins
1860- —Thomas T. Everett
1860-1861—J. F. Dodd
1861-1862—James I. Boswell
1862-1864—Theodore D. Frazee
1864- —Garrett Van Horne
1864-1865—John Davis
1865-1867—Robert B. Collins
1867-1868—Henry M. Simpson
1868-1870—Elihu Grant
1870-1873—John J. Reed
1873-1876—Charles S. Ryman
1876-1878—Alexander Craig
1878-1881—Thomas L. Smith
1881-1884—Warren L. Hoagland
1884-1887—George L. Smith
1887-1890—Joseph A. Owen
1890-1893—Wesley Martin
1893-1898—William H. Ruth
1898-1904—Charles M. Anderson
1904-1907—John R. Wright
1907-1913—Addison W. Hayes
1913-1915—G. Franklin Ream
1915- —Joseph F. Shaw
1915-1916—Wesley Martin
1916-1919—Stephen J. Herben
1919 to date—Charles W. Wright



Walnut trees under which original services were held, as they
now appear

Chapter I

History

WESTFIELD Methodism is celebrating its 75th anniversary. Born in the year 1849, on the farm of Cornelius A. Leveridge, on East Broad Street, under walnut trees which are still standing, and cradled for two years beneath the blue arch of Heaven during the summer season, and at various homes when the weather was inclement, the organization grew sturdily and steadily until in the process of time and with the favor of the Almighty, it was privileged to worship in the present enduring structure of stone and cement; a monument to the faith of the Methodist people and to the untiring zeal of that inspiring leader of men, Rev. Addison Wilbur Hayes, D. D., during whose pastorate this splendid edifice was erected.

It is fitting that in the midst of our joyous celebration of three quarters of a century of aggressive Methodism in Westfield, surrounded by comforts unknown to our forebears, and favored by the respect of the community, we should turn back the pages of history and acquaint ourselves with some of the struggles endured by the pioneer Methodists that made possible our present strong organization.

It was on a summer's day in 1849 that a little group of people with Methodist hopes and aspirations gathered under the walnut trees on Mr. Leveridge's farm and listened to a sermon by the Rev. William Perry, who had come over from Plainfield to offer encouragement and aid. Besides Mr. and Mrs. Cornelius A. Leveridge, of the First Methodist Church of Plainfield the group included Mr. and Mrs. David M. Woodruff, of the Springfield Methodist Church, Mrs. Benjamin Marsh and Mrs. Ann E. Day, who had recently settled in or near the village.

Mr. Perry, who was an eloquent preacher, soon drew large congregations not only from the village but from the surrounding country also, numbering at times from two hundred to three hundred persons.

For over a year the services were conducted in this manner, at the end of which time the gatherings had grown to such an extent that a society was formed, and on March 27th, 1851, a Board



Cornelius A. Leveridge

of Trustees was elected as follows: Cornelius A. Leveridge, Joseph Trampleasure, David M. Woodruff, Elihu B. Moott and John M. Clark, under the name of "Trustees of the First Methodist Episcopal Church of Westfield, N. J." The certificate of incorporation was made out and executed March 29th, 1851, but was not filed with the clerk of the county until August 31st, 1852.

The following is a copy of the certificate of incorporation:

"Certificate of the Incorporation of the First Methodist Episcopal Church of Westfield.

'Having been elected trustees of the religious body hereinafter named on the 27th day of March, 1851, and having complied with the directions of the Statutes of New Jersey in such cases made and provided, we therefore certify under our hands and seals that we wish to be known by the name of the First Methodist Episcopal Church of Westfield in the County of *Essex, State of New Jersey.'

"Sealed with our seals and dated this 27th day of March, 1851.

"C. A. LEVERIDGE,
"JOSEPH TRAMPLEASURE,
"DAVID M. WOODRUFF,
"ELIHU B. MOOTT,
"JOHN M. CLARK.

"Sworn and subscribed this 29th day of March, 1851.

"Samuel Y. Clark, Justice of the Peace.

"Received at this office August 31, 1852.

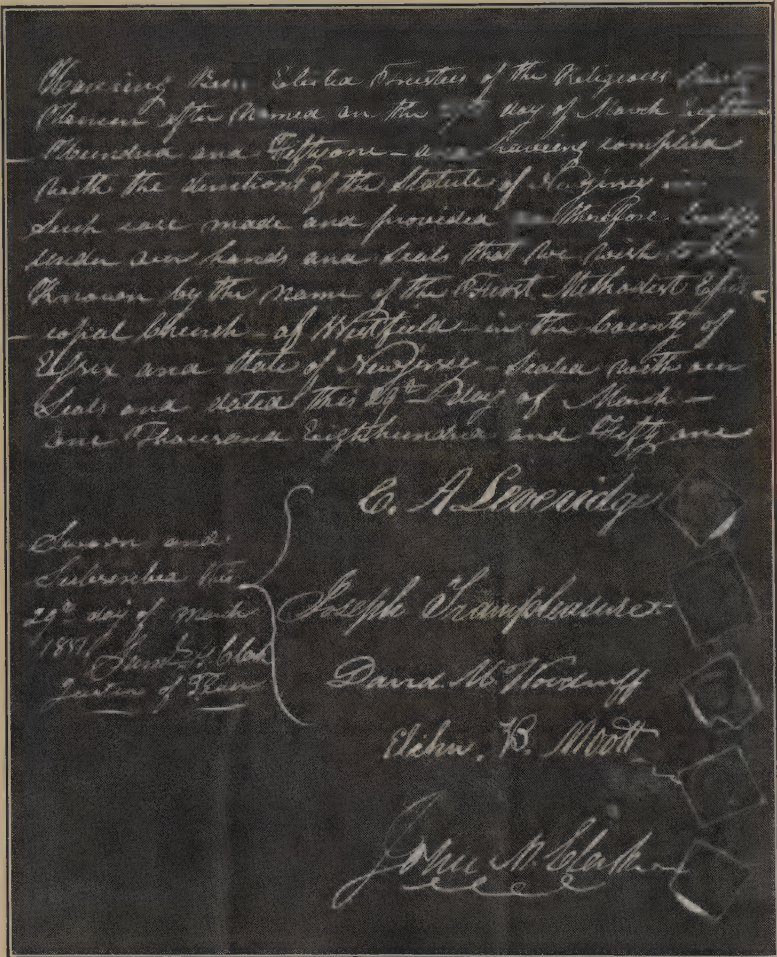
"J. R. Weeks, Clerk.

"Recorded page 230, Book B, Miscellanies."

On June 12, 1851, the trustees sent the following letter to the New Jersey Conference: "To the Revs., the Bishop, Presiding Elders and ministers of the M. E. Church of the State of New Jersey in conference assembled:

"Rev. Sirs:—We, the subscribers, recently appointed trustees for a M. E. Church about to be erected in this village, earnestly solicit your attention and co-operation, that we may be enabled to carry out our design as contemplated in the following resolution, passed at our last meeting, held the 12th inst.

* From which Union County was later detached.



Certificate of Incorporation

"Moved and resolved, that Messrs. J. M. Clark, C. A. Leveridge and Joseph Trampleasure be appointed a committee to draft a petition to the approaching conference of the M. E. Church in this state, urging the necessity of forming Westfield into a mission station and requesting the appointment of a missionary for the ensuing year.

"The Committee referred to think it best to present a plain statement of facts for your consideration and pray that the God whom we serve may guide you in your deliberations thereon.

"The town of Westfield contains an area of sixteen miles and a population of twenty-one hundred souls. The only church is Presbyterian. The nearest Methodist Episcopal churches are in the villages of Rahway, Springfield and Plainfield, nearly equidistant, about five miles from the village of Westfield. There are about twenty members in good standing scattered through this township, who, in consequence of distance and the frequent badness of the roads, are often compelled to absent themselves from the means of grace; there are many others, with their families, privily attached to the Methodist discipline and form of worship, having long felt their privations, determined on a united effort to erect a church in our village.

"An appeal has been made, two eligible building sites have been offered and six hundred dollars promised and much more conditionally, i. e., as soon as the building is commenced. The trustees pledge themselves to raise one hundred dollars towards his (the missionary's) salary.

"Out-door preaching has been tried and large and attentive congregations have assembled, as can be testified by the Rev. Mr. Perry, of Plainfield, who kindly officiated on several occasions.

"Resting in the conviction that the cause we advocate is the cause of God and that the organization of a Methodist Episcopal church in this place will result in the conviction and conversion of numbers we confidently present our case before you and shall anxiously await your decision thereon."

In answer to this appeal Westfield was formed into a mission station under the charge of the Rev. Thomas T. Campfield, pastor of the Springfield M. E. Church.

During the summer of 1851 services were continued under the shade trees on Mr. C. A. Leveridge's lawn, and active preparations

You and Each of You do sincerely profess and
 Swear that You will support the Constitution of
 The United States - Also that You will bear true
 Faith and allegiance to the Government Established
 in this State under the Authority of the People -
 And Further that You will Faithfully execute
 the Trust reposed in You as Trustees of the Religious
 Society known by the name of the First Methodist
 - Episcopal Church of Westfield New Jersey -

C. A. Severidge.

Sworn and Subscribed
 - before this 29th day
 of March 1851
 Saml. H. Clark
 Justice Peace

Joseph Crampden

David M. Woodruff

Eliza B. Mott

John M. Clark

Oath of office—First Board of Trustees

were made for the erection of a church.

Through a generous gift of Matthias Clark, they obtained a site which is almost identical with the one where the present church stands.

The deed for the church property bears date of October 27th, 1851. The corner stone was laid on November 7th, 1851, but it being too late in the fall for further action, the erection of the building was postponed until the following spring. Meantime, Rev. William C. Nelson, a young man just entering the ministry, was appointed to assist Rev. Mr. Campfield.

During the balance of the summer of 1852 the services were held in the orchard of Mr. John M. Clark, a platform and seats being provided for that purpose. When cold weather made a change necessary, Mr. Clark gave the Trustees the use of his building which had previously been used as a hotel, and these rooms served for religious services until the new church was completed. Westfield having been made a separate station by the Conference of 1853, with Rev. T. T. Campfield in charge, work on the new building was resumed and it was finally completed and dedicated on December 10th, 1853. The cost of the new church was \$3,021. It was 36 x 50 feet, had a gallery across one end and seated about three hundred persons. The first Quarterly Conference was held July 16, 1853, at the residence of C. A. Leveridge, the Board consisting of C. A. Leveridge, Benjamin Wilcox, John Cushing, Joseph Trampleasure and D. H. Badgley.

The year 1854 began under most favorable conditions. A membership of thirty-six was on the church roll, besides five probationers. The Sunday School, while small, was growing rapidly.

During the year 1855 Mr. and Mrs. James R. Ferris joined the church and for a period of about fifty years were active workers and contributors.

In 1857 the State was divided into two conferences, the Newark and the New Jersey. The Newark Conference was divided into four districts—Newark, Paterson, Newton and Rahway, with Westfield located in the Rahway district. With Mr. James R. Ferris as superintendent, the Sunday School was increased to fifteen teachers and seventy-five scholars during the year 1857. Finding accommodations in the church building inadequate for the growing school, it was decided, in 1860, to erect a separate Sunday School room. This was accomplished by moving the church build-



First Church erected 1852

ing back forty feet and building an addition 25 x 45 feet in the rear. This work was completed in the spring of 1861. In order to make room for the addition, a lot 45 x 75 feet was purchased from Mr. James R. Ferris for the nominal sum of \$50, which amount and much more, he contributed to the new building. When, in 1864, Mr. Ferris resigned as superintendent to go South, the Sunday School roll had grown to 211 scholars and 37 officers and teachers. Benevolent contributions averaged about \$175 yearly.

Pastors' salaries were not extravagant in those days, when skilled labor commanded about \$1.50 a day. The highest salary paid up to 1863 was \$300, but this was gradually increased to \$685 in 1869.

In 1867 Mr. Ferris returned from the South and about the same time Mr. B. F. Ham moved to Westfield. Together they labored zealously and loyally for the upbuilding of the work even to the extent, after having been elected to the Board of Trustees, of agreeing to pay one-half of all the church expenses. In 1870 the pastor's salary was raised to \$1,200. Rev. John J. Reed, an outstanding figure in the conference, was sent here. He promptly began agitation for a new parsonage, and Mr. Ferris having deeded a lot in the rear of the church to the Trustees on July 1, 1871, for the sum of \$300, a parsonage was erected at a cost of about \$3,000.

By 1870 it was evident that the growing congregation must have larger quarters, but not until 1873, when Rev. C. S. Ryman was pastor, did this sentiment result in action. On September 10, 1873, a building committee was appointed to superintend the erection of a new church edifice, to be 45 x 75 feet in size, with lecture room and Sunday School accommodations in the basement. The building committee consisted of the following members: James R. Ferris, Chairman; B. F. Ham, J. G. Hanson, Effingham Embree and J. W. Stopford. The old church was sold to Mr. Ferris, who moved it to Broad Street for business purposes. It was later destroyed by fire. The contract for the new building was given to J. N. Wilcox, but owing to the panic of 1873, only the basement was completed and used until 1876 for church purposes, the first service being held in May, 1874. At a meeting held on September 16th, 1876, J. R. Ferris, J. G. Hanson and B. F. Ham were appointed a committee to finish the building which they did, at a cost of \$4,453.64. The organ cost \$1,500. The entire church on completion, represented an expenditure of \$23,000. The dedica-



Second Church erected in 1873-1876

tion of the new church took place Sunday, May 30th, 1877.

In 1886, Mrs. Mary Ann Burhans presented the magnificent bell, which ever since, in deep, majestic tones, has called worshippers to the house of God. A feature of this event was the tolling of the bell in person by Grandma Burhans, eighty-six times—once for every year of her age. The clock was secured through public subscription by enthusiastic townspeople, and the proceeds of a fair conducted under the energetic leadership of Miss Mary E. Mapes, a member of the church.

Realizing that more commodious quarters would soon be a matter of absolute need to provide for the rapidly increasing congregation and Sunday School, the officials, with commendable foresight, in the closing months of Rev. Charles M. Anderson's pastorate, secured the properties on both sides of the original site which were paid for during the pastorate of Rev. John R. Wright.

With the coming of Rev. Addison Wilbur Hayes, D. D., in 1907, the agitation for a larger and more modern church edifice, which had been smoldering for some years, developed into a widespread and deepseated conviction that the time had come to translate such sentiment into concrete action. Dr. Hayes was drawing large congregations; his hold on the men of the church was probably greater than that of any pastor preceding him; under his leadership all departments of the church had made rapid strides, and it was felt that the psychological moment had arrived for the great undertaking, which to be successful, needed the hearty co-operation of every official of the church and every member of the congregation. Tentative plans were secured for two buildings at a difference in cost of some \$25,000, and a meeting of officials was called at the home of Edward S. Malmar, then on Ferris Place. Those present will never forget the dramatic features of the occasion. Representing a congregation of 460 members, with no outstanding wealth among them, the officials were called upon to decide a question involving many thousands of dollars. The situation was tense; the two plans and their respective costs were explained, and after lengthy discussion, the Board prepared to vote. Those favoring the project, with Dr. Hayes, were fearful that there might be sufficient lack of courage among certain members to divide sentiment and create opposition; but when the roll was called, not only was there no dissenting vote, but the Board, having before it a vision of the future, actually rejected the less ex-



Breaking ground for new church June, 1910

pensive plan, and voted to erect the present edifice at an expense of about \$100,000. Mightily encouraged by such an exhibition of loyalty and faith on the part of the Board, the Building Committee, consisting of Leigh M. Pearsall, chairman; James F. Johnston, vice-chairman; J. Fred Wright, secretary; Rev. Addison W. Hayes, John S. Burhans, Jr., Herbert L. Abrams, J. Herbert Pearsall, Edward S. Malmar, James Moffett, William S. Welch, William H. Davies, and T. T. Harkrader, immediately set about securing bids and getting the work started. During the period of two years from the time of the appointment of the Committee, until the dedication of the new building seventy-two meetings were held, and thirty-five modern church buildings within a radius of fifty miles were visited by the various members of the committee. On Sunday, September 18th, 1910, the corner stone was laid amid impressive ceremonies. At this service there was present Rev. William C. Nelson, the oldest living pastor of the church, who nurtured the little flock back in 1852 as the second pastor of Methodism in Westfield. On October 1st of the following year, the church was dedicated by Bishop Frank M. Bristol, and a week of services was held in honor of the event.

Although funds in hand only justified the completion of the main church auditorium in the year 1910, the exterior of the Sunday School portion was erected and later enough work done inside to permit of its occupancy by the school until the building could be completed according to the original plans. In 1922 the basement of the school was finished, a new heating plant installed, and a modern kitchen with equipment provided. A contract has just been awarded for the completion of the main Sunday School auditorium, gallery and adjoining rooms at a cost of approximately \$23,000 including furniture and installation of the "Alfred E. Pearsall" organ.

The construction of the Plaza, for which allowance was made in the placing of the present edifice on its site, gives our church probably the most conspicuous and beautiful location of any church building in this part of the state.

Outstanding among the many notable public events that have taken place within its walls was the month of union revival services in November, 1917, when Gypsy Smith, Jr., preached to nightly gatherings that on several occasions exceeded 1000 persons. During the world war a number of semi-religious patriotic meet-



Corner Stone laying 1910—Rev. A. W. Hayes, pastor, speaking

ings were held Sunday evenings, and after our entry into the strife, it was the weekly custom at the close of the Sunday services, to have the flag held at attention (usually by some service man), while the congregation, standing, sung a verse of "America."

The silk flag, used for this purpose, and which during the war was displayed at all patriotic rallies, has since been constantly exhibited on the platform at church services. It was presented to the church on the morning of dedication by the Building Committee in token of its appreciation of the honor conferred upon it in receiving from the church the commission to erect the new structure.

Believing that it will be of interest to the readers of this history, the cost of each of the three buildings is given on the following pages, together with a condensed report for the last twenty-five years of the church and Sunday School membership, and the amounts contributed yearly for current expenses, benevolences and buildings and improvements.

BUILDING COSTS

First Building

Erected in 1853	\$3,021.00	
Erected in 1860 Sunday School Addition..	1,527.28	
	<hr/>	\$4,548.28

Second Building

Erected in 1873—

General contract	\$13,297.56	
Heating apparatus and lighting fixtures	745.58	
Furnishings	599.66	
Architects fees	300.00	
Extras	248.34	
Insurance	177.10	
Grading	89.19	
	<hr/>	15,457.43
1876—Contract for completion	\$4,453.64	
Cost of organ	1,500.00	
1886—Cost steeple, bell and clock.....	3,000.00	
	<hr/>	8,953.64
		<hr/>
		\$24,411.07

Third Building

1909-1910

General Contract	\$64,197.75	
Organ and motor	6,894.05	
Architects fees	3,435.00	
Stained glass windows	3,105.00	
Pews	2,367.12	
Electric fixtures	1,455.75	
Grading and walks	1,273.00	
Pulpit and Study furniture and carpets....	872.14	
Hardware	656.67	
Screens for doors and windows	206.00	
Miscellaneous items	475.59	
	<hr/>	84,938.07

Other expenses incidental to the building operations:

Interest on temporary loans	\$6,781.83	
Moving and repairing old building	2,201.96	
Payment of parsonage mortgage	1,591.20	
Insurance	492.75	
Legal expenses	246.05	
Dedication expenses	396.80	
Stationery and printing	141.11	
	<hr/>	11,851.70

1916—

Partial completion of Sunday School		
Room	\$1,795.91	
Partial completion of kitchen	467.42	
Architects fees	1,260.00	
Furniture	866.93	
	<hr/>	4,390.26

1922—

Contract for completion of basement....	\$10,283.94	
Contract for heating plant	4,684.00	
Furniture and furnishings	1,947.48	
Architects fees	462.30	
Lighting fixtures	207.50	
Interest on loans	65.60	
Miscellaneous items	248.21	
	<hr/>	17,899.03

Total to date \$119,079.06

1924—

Contract for completion of Sunday		
School room	\$17,636.00	
Estimated cost of fixtures, furniture and		
installation of organ	5,000.00	
	<hr/>	22,636.00
		<hr/>
		\$141,715.06



Corner Stone laying 1910—Rev. Wm. C. Nelson, pastor in 1852, speaking

1898-1924

Conference Year	‡ Membership Church	‡ Membership Sunday, School	Current Expenses	‡ Benevolences	Building and Improvements
1898-1899	366	282	\$2,920.10	\$1,023.00	\$1,320.98
1899-1900	368	412	3,848.12	\$1,255.00	625.42
1900-1901	408	378	3,844.41	1,424.00	0
1901-1902	419	455	4,123.75	1,135.00	0
1902-1903	438	477	3,921.36	1,600.00	0
1903-1904	450	430	4,193.48	1,800.00	847.00
1904-1905	468	402	4,103.52	1,590.00	2,181.00
1905-1906	471	337	4,023.88	1,647.00	3,755.91
1906-1907	480	327	3,938.97	1,487.00	1,774.83
1907-1908	425	435	4,497.83	1,358.00	1,601.02
1908-1909	450	430	5,204.80	2,158.00	1,345.15
1909-1910	460	567	5,258.00	1,784.00	703.00
1910-1911	465	629	5,661.35	1,646.00	15,485.33
1911-1912	500	713	6,554.23	1,871.00	20,944.32
1912-1913	612	720	7,153.88	1,900.00	7,785.01
1913-1914	554	535	8,502.17	1,922.00	4,928.56
1914-1915	584	574	8,312.21	1,922.00	2,903.43
1915-1916	579	631	9,229.66	2,150.00	697.40
1916-1917	562	654	10,627.06	2,280.00	6,189.34
1917-1918	734	669	9,797.52	2,525.00	8,822.44
1918-1919	624	550	8,041.47	3,135.00	5,678.70
1919-1920	644	604	10,488.09	8,891.00	*23,676.09
1920-1921	718	721	12,264.22	11,208.00	2,665.04
1921-1922	764	790	12,449.34	10,071.00	4,988.20
1922-1923	816	800	14,210.24	14,053.00	*10,229.80
1923-1924	820	685	14,422.07	16,660.00	5,861.77
Totals.....			\$187,591.73	\$98,495.00	\$135,009.74

‡ Report to Annual Conference

* Includes Mr. and Mrs. Pearsall's gift for parsonage

Chapter II

ORGANIZATIONS

THE CHURCH SCHOOL



THE first Sunday School, or "Church School," as it has been termed officially this year, was organized June 10th, 1853, with seven teachers and officers and thirty scholars. During the succeeding years its membership kept pace with that of the church and community. The School, having been regarded as the child of the church, called for and received, consecrated and consistent service from a larger number of our members than any other organization. This has been emphasized particularly by the fact that during its seventy-one years of existence it has but thirteen superintendents, who served an average of five and one-half years each. Furthermore, nearly all of them attained to that responsible position after many years of service as teachers, or in other official positions in the school, which eventually qualified them for leadership. The school was also fortunate in having many teachers who served faithfully for long periods, many growing up with their classes. That their labors were not in vain is shown by the fact that from the School the following members entered either the ministry, or served as missionaries or deaconesses:

James O. Woodruff.....	Ministry
Thomas Sims	Ministry
William R. Winans.....	Ministry
Frederick O. Winans.....	Ministry
Frank B. Ham.....	Ministry
W. W. Moffett.....	Ministry
Francesco Salmonetti	Ministry
Antonio Salmonetti	Ministry
Wm. J. Hart.....	Home Missionary
Edith T. Morehouse.....	Medical " (Foreign)
Susie Ackerman	Deaconess
Mary L. Dezendorf.....	Deaconess

In the early seventies, the Berean Lessons were adopted and used for about thirty years, supplemented from time to time by

various periodicals. In 1903 the school was graded and a part of the lesson period was devoted to the study of a supplementary graded course. Of recent years, the school has been sub-divided into the several departments as recommended by the Board of Sunday Schools. The increase in membership from year to year covering the last twenty-five years, will be found in another part of this book. The Superintendents of the school, with their terms of service, follow:

1853-1859.....	Hiram W. Woodruff
1859-1864.....	James R. Ferris
1869-1872.....	Stephen S. Mapes
1872-1881.....	James R. Ferris
1881-1895.....	Robert R. Sinclair
1895-1896.....	Edwin A. Brainerd
1896-1899.....	Elisha L. Taylor
1899-1900.....	Wellington Morehouse
1900-1906.....	Elisha L. Taylor
1906-1908.....	Harry L. Russell
1908-1917.....	James F. Johnston
1917-1923.....	Ralph I. Vervoort
1924 to date.....	Hugh D. Maydole

WOMEN'S AID SOCIETY

The first Women's Society in this church, so far as obtainable records show, was formed April 20th, 1870, and was known as "The Ladies' and Pastor's Christian Union," with the pastor-in-charge, Rev. John J. Reed, as president. The object of this organization was "The employment of Christian women in co-operation with the regular ministry in the extension of the Redeemer's Kingdom, by works of religion and charity, such as the visitation of strangers, the sick and the poor; the circulation of religious literature and the relief of the needy." The charter members of this organization numbered twenty-one, of whom three, Mrs. Mapes, Mrs. Crosby and Mrs. Whitaker, are still members of our church and deeply interested in its activities and success. This society was succeeded on April 30, 1873, by "The Ladies' Aid Society." Mrs. James R. Ferris was elected its first president and held the position continuously until April, 1910. The object of the new organization was "to furnish the parsonage and to aid in such

improvements of the church as the members of the Society may think advisable." Faithfully they performed these duties. The problem of keeping the parsonage properly furnished and repaired was one that required much study and tact, but the "Ladies' Aid" invariably measured up to its responsibilities, culminating with the selection of beautiful furnishings for the new parsonage on Dudley Avenue, in 1923. The records also show a deep interest by this Society in the appointments of the church, particularly its furnishings, and its aid and advice were frequently sought by the Building Committee and Official Board in matters affecting the beauty of the rooms and the comfort of the people. In fact, the Ladies' Aid Society has proved to be the most versatile of all our church organizations, loyally supporting pastor and officials, visiting the church membership, comforting the sick, aiding the needy; resourceful in providing entertainments and festivals and raising large sums for the building costs, always cheerfully meeting the tasks assigned to them, and by their example affording inspiration for every other department of the church and commanding the admiration and esteem of the entire church membership.

The name "Women's Aid Society" was adopted in 1924.

The Presidents of this society have been:

1873-1910.....	Mrs. James R. Ferris
1910-1911.....	Miss Emma A. Halsted
1911-1918.....	Mrs. William H. Davies
1918-1923.....	Mrs. George D. Beatty
1923 to date.....	Mrs. John B. Trimble

WOMEN'S HOME MISSIONARY SOCIETY

This society was organized on March 22nd, 1883, for the purpose of "Aiding in interesting Christian women in the elevation and evangelization of needy and destitute women and children in our own land and raising funds for this work."

There were fifteen charter members of whom three, Mrs. Sinclair, Mrs. Crosby and Mrs. Whitaker, are still members of our church.

At various times during the succeeding years they have contributed of their funds for the sustaining of missionaries among the mormons in Utah, the mountain whites in Georgia, negroes in

Florida and Arkansas and the Indians in Alaska; also Asbury mission in New York, mission work in Porto Rico, the Italian work and the Children's Country Home in our own town and the deaconess homes in Newark and Jersey City.

Much of the assistance given at these points has been in the form of clothing and other supplies shipped out continually in boxes and barrels, wherever most needed. In all of their work they have been greatly aided by the Queen Esther Circle of younger women and the Home Guards and Mother's Jewels, children's organizations.

These younger organizations have been fostered by the Home Missionary Society with the object of developing the missionary spirit among our young people and thus preparing them for the responsibilities of later years.

Believing that one of the objects of the society should be the diffusion of "Light" and desiring to be identified as an organization with the new church project in 1910 and 1911, they raised sufficient funds to defray the cost of the electric lamps on the outside of the building, as symbolical of that purpose.

The presidents of the society from the beginning have been:

1883-1888.....	Mrs. Benjamin F. Ham
1888-1890.....	Mrs. John Ingram
1890-1902.....	Mrs. James A. Simpson
1902-1904.....	No president
1904-1914.....	Mrs. Samuel Burhans
1914-1921.....	Mrs. William A. Bishop
1921 to date.....	Mrs. Leonard H. Johnson

THE WOMEN'S FOREIGN MISSIONARY SOCIETY

This society was organized on November 16th, 1887, with sixty-seven charter members of whom seventeen are still members of our church and one of whom, Dr. Edith T. Morehouse, is at present serving as a missionary in India.

Article 2 of their constitution states that "the object of this society shall be to aid its branch in the evangelization of heathen women and in raising funds for this work."

Soon after its organization it assumed the cost of educating a young Japanese girl and continued that line of work for nearly twenty years.

Under the leadership of its present President, Mrs. Frank W. Cooke, the society has grown remarkably in numerical and spiritual strength and leads the entire Newark Conference in the raising of funds for its work.

Another feature of its activities is the fostering of the junior missionary societies in the church; namely, the Standard Bearers, King's Heralds and the Little Light Bearers, all of which are well organized and working for the development of the missionary spirit.

In 1919 the society assumed the support of Dr. Mary E. Carleton of Mint-sing, China, and has not only continued it but has provided an assistant for her at an additional cost of \$100 per year. Besides this, the society contributed \$100 for a French war orphan, \$90 for scholarships in China and India and \$80 for itinerary work.

The total amount raised by this society and its subsidiaries for the last year was \$3,158.

Its presidents have been:

1887-1892.....	Mrs. Ida Luckey
1892-1893.....	Mrs. Margaret B. Mapes
1893-1894.....	Mrs. John S. Burhans
1894-1899.....	Mrs. George H. Brown
1899-1900.....	No president
1900-1904.....	Mrs. Margaret B. Mapes
1904-1907.....	No president
1907-1912.....	Mrs. Addison W. Hayes
1912-1913.....	Mrs. Charles W. Russell
1913-1914.....	Mrs. William A. Corbett
1914-1915.....	Mrs. William C. Hart
1915 to date.....	Mrs. Frank W. Cooke

EPWORTH LEAGUE

This organization is the successor of the Young People's Christian Association and was chartered as Mizpah Chapter No. 2709 of the Epworth League of the Methodist Church in the year 1892. Its object, as stated in its constitution, was to promote intelligent and loyal piety in the young members and friends of the church; to aid them in the attainment of purity of heart and in constant growth in grace and to train them in works of mercy and help.

During the three or more decades of its existence the League

has endeavored to interest and develop the young people of our church by conducting Sunday evening prayer services and monthly social meetings. Through its Mercy and Help department it has visited the sick, taken charge of the flowers for the pulpit and from time to time collected and distributed food to the needy. Its present membership is seventy-five. The following members have served as its presidents:

1890-1892.....	Edwin A. Brainerd
1892-1893.....	Lyle Morehouse
1893-1895.....	Samuel Burhans
1895-1896.....	J. Herbert Pearsall
1896-1897.....	P. Robert G. Sjostrom
1897-1899.....	John S. Burhans, Jr.
1899-1900.....	Moreland T. Townley
1900-1901.....	Frank B. Ham
1901-1902.....	William H. Davies
1902-1904.....	Moreland T. Townley
1904-1906.....	John S. Burhans, Jr.
1906-1907.....	Ralph I. Vervoort
1907-1909.....	Herbert R. Welch
1909-1910.....	William J. Hart
1910-1911.....	Ralph I. Vervoort
1911-1912.....	Ray E. Bauder
1912-1913.....	John J. Marsh
1913-1915.....	Harry S. Parker
1915-1917.....	Walter W. Gill
1917-1919.....	Frank L. Beattys
1919-1920.....	Clifford Ewing
1920-1921.....	Abram E. Bedell
1921-1922.....	George Root
1922-1923.....	
1923-1924.....	Abram E. Bedell
1924 to date.....	A. Thomas McGuire

MEN'S BROTHERHOOD

The Brotherhood was organized in February, 1906, with the stated purpose of promoting sociability and friendly intercourse among its members and to create a deeper interest in our church.

Membership was open to any male person 16 years of age and over, of good moral character. During all the succeeding years

it has lived up to its purpose by conducting social gatherings, athletic meets, courses of entertainments, lectures and banquets. Along spiritual lines it has conducted Sunday morning prayer services, Sunday afternoon evangelistic meetings, Union outdoor services with other Protestant churches of the town; fostered a Men's Bible class in connection with our church school and organized and sent out teams to conduct religious meetings in the rural districts. In 1914 the members made a complete census of the town, the population of which was 8000 at the time, the church preference of all residents being the object. The results were transmitted to the various churches.

After the Great War it erected a bronze tablet in the vestibule in honor of all the men and women of our church who entered the service of their country during that trying period.

Its successful record is due to the able and conscientious leadership which it has enjoyed continuously. The following named members have served as its presidents:

1906-1907.....	Leigh M. Pearsall
1907-1908.....	Charles F. Harper.
1908-1909.....	Moreland T. Townley
1909-1911.....	T. Talmadge Harkrader
1911-1912.....	William A. Bishop
1912-1914.....	Arthur Atkins
1914-1915.....	{ John B. Hicks
	{ William A. Bishop
1915-1916.....	William A. Bishop
1916-1919.....	George C. Lucas
1919-1921.....	Howard Elliott
1921-1922.....	Benjamin F. Martin
1922-1923.....	Robert C. Webster
1923-1924.....	Franklin L. Reed
1924-1925.....	James R. Riley

THE OFFICIAL BOARD

For many years prior to 1905, the Board of Trustees and the Leaders and Stewards functioned separately. The trustees looked after the property and other temporal affairs of the church and the leaders and stewards, after the spiritual welfare and the development of the membership. In 1905, by action of each body, taken

separately, all matters pertaining to the church, both temporal and spiritual, except such as required corporate legal action, were vested in the Official Board whose membership included all members of the Quarterly Conference. Under the revised constitution adopted by the Official Board of 1923, the business of the Board is conducted through five departments, viz.: Spiritual, Educational, Visitation, Social and Business Management. Each member of the Board is assigned to one of these departments which is headed by a Vice-Chairman of the Board. The Pastor and the Vice-Chairmen constitute a cabinet whose business it is to arrange adaptation, co-ordination of programs, etc. The present Official Board has 43 members, who, with the dates when they became officials and their present positions, are given below:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Present Office</u>	<u>Year First Officially Connected</u>
Edwin A. Brainerd	Trustee	1889
J. Herbert Pearsall	"	1895
William H. Davies	"	1895
Charles E. Apgar	Steward	1895
Elisha L. Taylor	"	1895
Moreland T. Townley	Trustee	1899
Leigh M. Pearsall	"	1900
Edward S. Malmar	"	1902
Franklin L. Reed	Steward	1906
Ralph I. Vervoort	"	1906
Herbert R. Welch	"	1907
Ezra L. Waterman	"	1908
William A. Bishop	Trustee	1909
John S. Fisher	Steward	1911
Howard C. Wick	"	1913
George F. Rich	"	1914
John W. Fallon	"	1914
Lester W. Neefus	"	1914

Mrs. Frank W. Cooke	President W. F. M. S.	1915
Samuel D. French	Trustee	1916
George D. Beattys	"	1916
Ellsworth J. Johnson	Steward	1906
Lester H. Lewis	"	1916
Ralph E. Martin	"	1916
Mrs. Mary F. Pearsali	Steward	1917
Arthur M. Townsend	"	1917
John M. Cherry	Steward	1917
Frank L. Beattys	"	1917
Harold F. Welch	"	1918
George C. Lucas	"	1918
Rev. Charles W. Wright	Pastor	1919
Leonard H. Johnson	Steward	1921
Lorenzo W. Lake	"	1921
Lewis E. Burton	"	1922
Frank W. Cooke	"	1922
Richard L. McElroy	"	1922
Richard P. Martin, Jr.	"	1922
Hugh D. Maydole	"	1922
Robert C. Webster	"	1922
Mrs. Leonard H. Johnson	President W. H. M. S.	1922
Mrs. John B. Trimble	President Women's Aid S.	1923
A. Thomas McGuire	President Epworth League	1924
James R. Rilley	Steward	1924

The Board of Trustees, which is the corporate body of the church, consists of nine members, three of whom are elected each year, for a term of three years. At the expiration of J. H. Pearsall's second term as President, he declined re-election on the grounds that the honors of the office should be accorded other members of the board from time to time. This has been the practice since that year. The Presidents of the Board of Trustees have

been as follows :

*1851-Cornelius A. Leveridge
*1870-1896.....	James R. Ferris
*1896-1903.....	George H. Brown
1903-1905.....	Benjamin J. Crosby
1905-1907.....	P. Robert G. Sjostrom
1907-1909.....	J. Herbert Pearsall
1909-1912.....	William H. Davies
1912-1914.....	Leigh M. Pearsall
1914-1916.....	Edwgin A. Brainerd
1916-1918	Edward S. Malmar
1918-1920.....	Moreland T. Townley
1920-1922.....	George D. Beattys
1922-1924.....	William A. Bishop
1924 to date.....	Samuel D. French

Officers—1924-1925

Chairman—Rev. Charles W. Wright (Pastor in charge)
 Vice-Chairman—Arthur M. Townsend, Spiritual Dept.
 Vice-Chairman—Hugh D. Maydole, Educational Dept.
 Vice-Chairman—Samuel D. French, Visitation Dept.
 Vice-Chairman—Ralph I. Vervoort, Social Dept.
 Vice-Chairman—John M. Cherry, Business Management Dept.
 Secretary—Richard P. Martin, Jr.
 Treasurer—John S. Fisher

Church Secretary—Miss Charlotte M. Birdsall

* These dates are approximate



Rev. Addison Wilbur Hayes, D. D
Pastor 1907-1913

Chapter III LEADERSHIP

MINISTERIAL



PRIOR to 1872 no minister could be appointed to a charge for more than two consecutive years. At the General Conference held that year it was increased to three years. In 1892 it was increased to five years and in 1900, the limit was removed entirely. Therefore under the rules governing the church during the early years of its existence, there were frequent changes in the pastorates.

While the Rev. William Perry was the first Methodist preacher in Westfield, and history states that he was a scholarly man and an eloquent preacher, he was not appointed to this charge. His preaching preliminary to the organization of the church was effective and no doubt aided in its accomplishment.

The first regularly appointed pastor was the Rev. Thomas T. Campfield, in 1851. Inasmuch as Mr. Campfield was also pastor at Springfield, the Annual Conference of 1852 appointed a young man by the name of William C. Nelson as his assistant in charge of the Westfield mission as it was then termed. He proved very energetic and capable and immediately took up the work of building the first church.

In 1853 Westfield was made a separate station and Mr. Campfield was appointed pastor-in-charge. The Sunday School was organized during this year.

James Harris succeeded Mr. Campfield in 1855 serving only six months and was succeeded in turn by Joseph H. James. Mr. James, who was in his twenty-first year, gave up business to take this charge and served acceptably for a year and a half. His own modest words spoken many years later, "What I did for the church must have been very little, but the church did a great deal for me," reflected the character of the man who for over two score years continued "in His work."

Rev. Benjamin O. Parvin was pastor for the years 1857-1859 during which time the membership was increased to seventy-two.

Rev. Jeremiah Kowins, appointed in 1859, remained for one year only. During his term the Sunday School, with Mr. James R. Ferris as Superintendent, almost doubled in membership.

In 1860 Rev. Thomas T. Everett was appointed and the Sunday School addition to the church building was begun. Mr. Everett resigned before the end of the year and J. F. Dodd was appointed to serve out the unexpired term.

The Rev. James I. Boswell served for the year 1861-2 during which period the Sunday School again increased almost one hundred per cent.

The next pastor, the Rev. Theodore D. Frazee, served for two years (1862-4) and his labors were signalized by a most successful revival, resulting in increased membership and interest..

During the period 1864-1870 there were five pastors, namely, Garret Van Horn, six months; John Davis, six months; Robert B. Collins, 1865-1866; Henry M. Simpson, 1867; Elihu Grant, 1868-69. There appeared to be but little change in the numerical strength of either the church or Sunday School during these six years.

With the advent of Rev. John J. Reed in 1870 (one of the ablest preachers in the conference), things took a turn for the better. The salary of the pastor was increased to \$1,200 and a parsonage was built at a cost of \$3,000. A new church building was agitated at this time but was finally deferred until 1873. The Ladies' and Pastor's Christian Union was organized by Mr. Reed.

A few months after the appointment of Charles S. Ryman in 1873, a building committee was appointed, architects employed and contracts signed for the erection of the new church. Owing to the business panic of 1873 only the basement was completed in which the congregation worshipped until 1876.

The Rev. Alexander Craig was appointed in 1876 and under his leadership a vigorous effort was made to finish the building. Pledges were secured and bonds issued and the completed building was dedicated in May, 1877.

Rev. Thomas H. Smith followed Mr. Craig and served for three years. During his administration the church and school increased in numbers and the debt on the church was extinguished.

Rev. Warren L. Hoagland, the next pastor, served from 1881 to 1884. At the close of his pastorate, the Sunday School had an enrollment of three hundred and the church of one hundred sixty eight. The pastor's salary was increased to \$1,500. The Women's

Home Missionary Society was organized during Dr. Hoagland's pastorate.

Rev. George W. Smith was pastor from 1884 to 1887 during which period the steeple was completed, and the bell and clock installed.

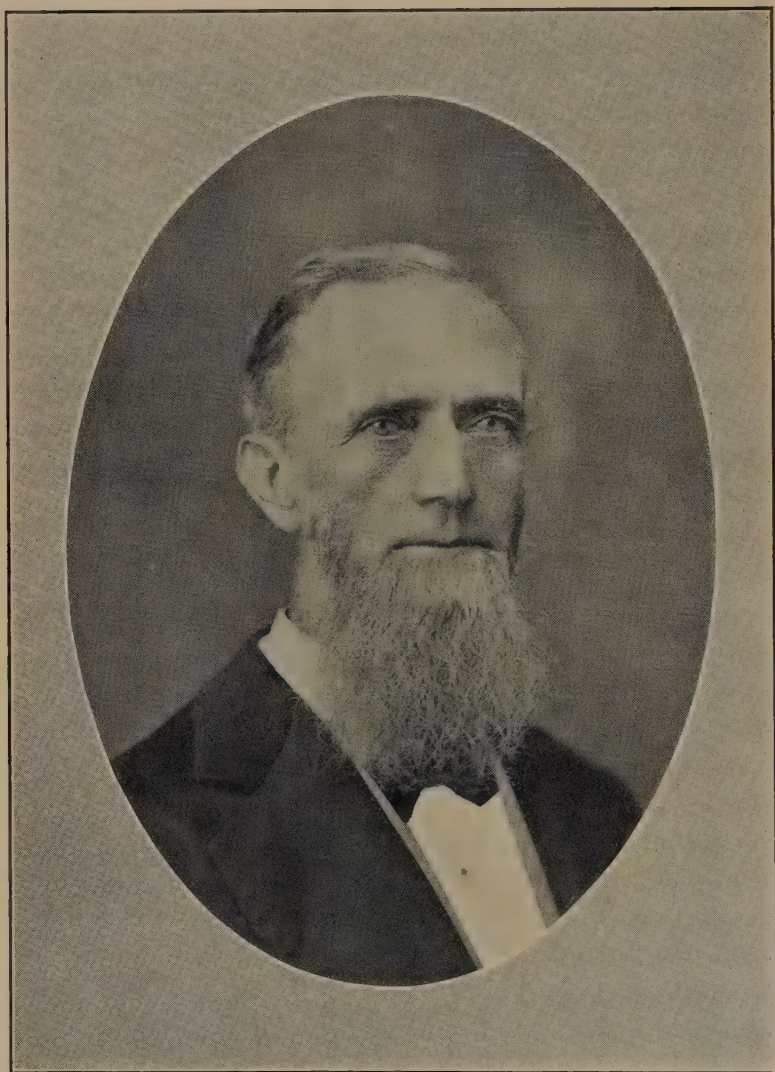
Rev. Joseph A. Owen, pastor during the years 1887-90, was a deep student and a man of intense religious zeal. Undoubtedly some of the revival spirit exhibited in later years was the fruitage of the seed sown during his pastorate. The Women's Foreign Missionary Society was organized in 1887, and benevolent contributions increased greatly during these years.

Rev. Wesley Martin came to Westfield in 1890 and during the three years of his pastorate revival services were conducted each year and brought large increases in membership of church and school. The Epworth League was organized in 1892.

Rev. William H. Ruth was the first pastor to serve five years under the new rules of the church. These five years were productive of great growth in the church both spiritual and material. To quote a letter from him "There was almost a constant revival spirit manifested, resulting in one hundred accessions by probation alone." The parsonage was enlarged and remodeled and the floating indebtedness of the church paid. The Locust Grove Mission was established and supported financially for some years, until improved roads and transportation facilities justified its abandonment. Contributions to benevolences reached the highest point in the history of the church.

Rev. Charles M. Anderson came from Bayonne to this charge in 1898 and was pastor for the ensuing six years. He was a preacher of strong personality and quickly won his way to the hearts of all classes. As a vigorous opponent of the liquor business, he attacked the saloon relentlessly at every opportunity; yet when one of the local saloon keepers lay dying he left word that Dr. Anderson should conduct his funeral services. During his pastorate, a great work was done with the Italians, a number of converts made, two of whom are now pastors amongst their own people in the United States.

Rev. John R. Wright, who had been Presiding Elder of the Jersey City District, was our next pastor, serving until 1907. During his term properties on each side of the church were purchased



James R. Ferris, President Board of Trustees
1870-1896

and largely paid for. The new church project was discussed and a building committee appointed but the time did not appear ripe for carrying it forward to consummation. The Men's League (now Brotherhood) was organized in 1906.

In 1907 the Rev. Addison W. Hayes was transferred from the Wyoming conference and appointed to the Westfield charge. A leader of men, a preacher of marked ability, an exceptional pastor and organizer, the whole church responded to his leadership and the new building project soon took definite form. The termination of his pastorate here in 1913 was a source of universal regret.

G. Franklin Ream, of Kansas Conference, and a professor in Baker University, was appointed in 1913 and served for two years, leaving to re-enter the educational field by appointment of the Bishop. He maintained the high standard of pulpit eloquence and spirituality set by his predecessor, and left the church vigorous in all departments.

The Rev. Joseph F. Shaw became our pastor in 1915, serving until his death on November 12th of that year at St. Peter's Hospital, New Brunswick, New Jersey. The sad intelligence of his sudden departure was a shock not alone to our church and congregation but to the entire community, and at a special meeting of the Official Board held Saturday evening, November 13, 1915, it was unanimously

"Resolved, that our church and congregation record its appreciation of his devotion and untiring efforts in furthering the work of the Kingdom of God, and particularly in that portion represented by the Westfield charge.

"Resolved further, that the sympathy of our church and congregation be extended to the sorrowing family of our deceased Pastor, and that they be given a copy of these resolutions."

The Official Board voted to pay to Mrs. Shaw the full salary and permit her to occupy the parsonage for the remainder of the Conference year.

Rev. Wesley Martin, a resident of Westfield, and a former pastor, under supernumerary relations, was appointed to fill out the unexpired term of Dr. Shaw.

The Rev. Stephen J. Herben was our next pastor and served

from 1916 to 1919, during the World War. In the fall of 1916, \$40,000 was pledged to pay off floating current expense debts, complete the Sunday School rooms and erect a new parsonage. The entry of the United States into the war a few months later deferred most of this work and in the early fall of 1918 Dr. Herben was appointed a Captain in the Red Cross, serving in France until the spring of 1919.

At the annual conference of 1919, the presiding Bishop appointed the Rev. Charles W. Wright to Westfield and he is now serving his sixth year as our pastor.

During this period the church membership has increased from 624 to 820, the Sunday School from 550 to 685, contributions to current expenses from \$8,041 to \$14,422 and to benevolences, from all sources, from \$3,135 to \$16,660, while the pastor's salary has been increased 50 per cent. The increase in benevolence contributions has been due largely to the Centenary program. In 1923 a much needed new parsonage was secured through the generosity of Mr. and Mrs. Leigh M. Pearsall.

LAYMEN

This church has had many laymen who have given of their time, talents and means year after year without the thought of reward other than the knowledge of Christian duty conscientiously performed and the "Well done, thou good and faithful servant" of their Lord.

The subject should not, however, be dismissed with the above sentence as there have been from time to time outstanding leaders who, with vision, wisdom and courage have carried the burdens of the day and by their steadfastness and loyalty, guided and sustained the church until this day.

Among these were the five men, named elsewhere in this history, who served as the first trustees and who incorporated the church.

Second only to these was James R. Ferris, who served as Class-Leader, Sunday School Superintendent, Trustee and Chairman of the Building Committee of the second edifice, giving of his time and means unstintingly over a period of nearly fifty years. Associated with him at various times were Benjamin F. Ham, Treasurer of the Church, and a large contributor to its building,

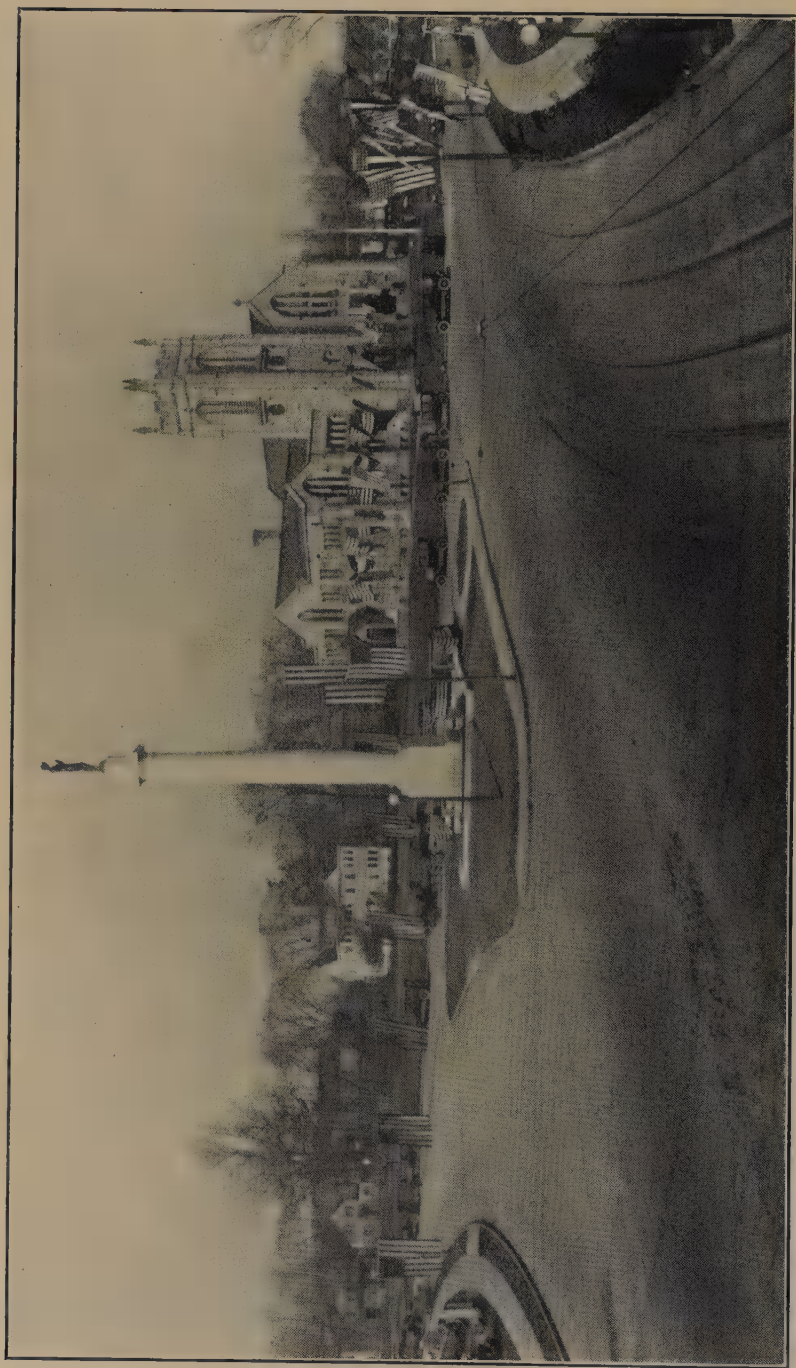
expense and benevolent funds; also Stephen S. Mapes, Benjamin J. Crosby, William S. Welch, George H. Brown, J. S. A. Wittke, William S. Hurst and Wellington Morehouse, our district steward for a long term of years.

Succeeding Mr. Ferris as Superintendent of the Sunday School was Mr. Robert R. Sinclair. Besides serving as Class-Leader, Steward and Trustee, he filled the Superintendency for fourteen years and the character of his work there is summed up in the following sentence taken from a history of the church published in 1898—"He raised the standard of work accomplished and was of incalculable advantage to officers, teachers and scholars under his care."

Of later years might be mentioned Edwin A. Brainerd, who has been Epworth League President, Class-Leader, Sunday School Superintendent, Steward, Exhorter, Trustee and President of the Board of Trustees. Altogether he has been officially connected with our church for thirty-five years and is now one of the most constant attendants at all our services.

In Mr. Leigh M. Pearsall, the church has had a leader of unusual foresight and ability. As chairman of the committee for the purchase of the adjoining properties in 1904 and 1905 and of the building committee from 1909 to date, he inspired courage and enlisted co-operation from all in the tremendous task. In 1919 Mr. and Mrs. Pearsall presented the church with \$20,000 for the erection of a parsonage and when the Official Board decided to build on a site away from the church, they supplemented their original gift by an additional \$3,500 for a site. This sum, with the accrued interest, amounting to almost \$27,000, was invested in the present parsonage at the corner of Dudley Avenue and Elm Street in 1923.

The Official Board recognized his services to the church by presenting him, in 1923, with a beautiful bronze desk set consisting of three pieces and inscribed: "Presented to Leigh M. Pearsall by the Official Board of the First Methodist Episcopal Church in appreciation of his inspiring leadership, 1898-1923."



Plaza, showing church as central figure

Chapter IV

CHURCH BUILDING and MEMORIALS

NEW EDIFICE

THE new edifice, reproduction of which is presented on the cover was designed by Jackson & Rosencrans, architects, of New York. The contract was awarded to the Republic General Contracting Company of New York and work on the structure was begun in the summer of 1910, ground having been broken in June and the cornerstone laid in September. The style of architecture is Gothic, following the English precedents more closely than the French or Italian, thus being more in harmony with the history of the Methodist Episcopal Church. The materials of construction entering into the exterior walls are rough quarry stone of a character approaching marble, trimmed with Indiana limestone. The roof is covered with variegated green and purple slate. Flashings, gutters, etc., are of copper. The materials exposed to the weather insure permanency of the structure.

The principal feature of the Broad street facade is the tower, 22 feet square, and rising to a height of 80 feet. It carries both the bell and the clock, which for many years were in the steeple of the old church.

The interior is simple but dignified. A great arch encloses the choir loft, with a smaller arch flanking it on either side. The ceiling shows the open trusses which support the roof, and these and all other woodwork are of chestnut.

The magnificent organ, which is installed in a specially designed chamber directly back of the pulpit, was built by Messrs. J. H. & C. S. Odell & Co., of New York. It contains thirty speaking stops, which are operated by tilting tablets placed over the manuals, making it much more convenient for the organist than the old fashioned draw stops. These stops or registers are made on extra large scales which produce a fullness and richness of tone unsurpassed. The action is tubular pneumatic throughout, including the stop action, all supplied with compressed air by means of an electric blower, in the choir room below the organ chamber.

Most of the details of its construction were left to John S. Burhans, Jr., a member of the Building Committee, whose musical



Cornelius A. Leveridge
and
William Perry
Tablet

knowledge admirably fitted him for this important task.

The carefully designed furniture and fittings are in keeping with the general design of the church interior. The architects designed special pulpit, pews and furnishings, which appeal strongly to the cultured taste. This same spirit of individuality and simple elegance has been carried throughout the appointments, which include an harmonious color scheme, lighting fixtures and finish of wood. It is interesting to note that the design of the pulpit follows closely the one in St. Mary's Church, Oxford, from which John Wesley, to fulfill the terms of his fellowship in Lincoln College, preached once in three years, until in 1744 his sermon gave such offense to the university dignitaries that they preferred thereafter to pay a substitute rather than sit again under his searching preaching. Another interesting feature is the carved shield (or cartouche) which surmounts the screen between the auditorium and the Sunday School room. This shield bears the seal of John Wesley, a cross and crown surrounded by the words "Be thou faithful unto death."

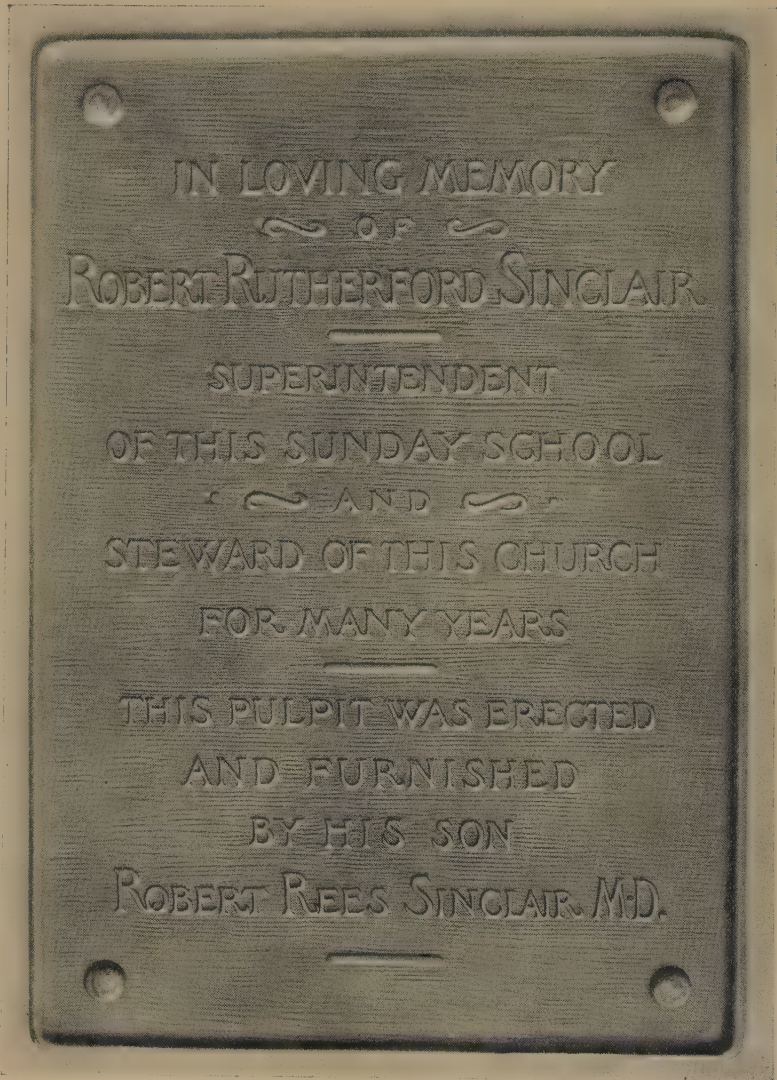
The auditorium is adequately lighted from both sides and through the great window in the front gable, while the choir loft is equally well lighted from the side windows over the pastor's study and the choir entrance. The windows, many of them memorial, have leaded glass in soft tones and were made by the Gorham Company of New York under the direction of the architects.

WINDOWS AND MEMORIALS

Each of the choir windows contains a scroll on a shield with the following texts, one in each window: "O Praise God," "In His Holiness," "Sing Unto the Lord," and "Praise His Name." These emblematic texts are appropriate for choir windows on account of their proximity to the organ, which is especially set aside for the praise of God's Holy Name.

PROSPECT STREET WINDOWS

The large window, a memorial to Phineas C. Pearsall, Catherine Morgan Pearsall, Benjamin F. Ham, who held the offices of Class Leader, Steward and Trustee, and James R. Ferris, who in his time was Class Leader, Sunday School Superintendent, Stew-



Robert R. Sinclair Tablet

ard and Trustee, contains the symbols of the four Evangelists on the shields in the tracery. These stand as a type for the New Testament. The inscription on the Pearsall memorial reads: "Their children rise up and call them blessed," and on the Ferris memorial: "Fervent in spirit, serving the Lord."

The small five light window underneath, being so near, still concerns itself with the subject of the New Testament, as follows: "Chi Rio" in the center light, symbol of Christ; in the first light, a memorial to Wellington Morehouse; and the last light "Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord." In the second light, a memorial to Frederick C. Decker, are Lilies, symbolic of purity and innocence, with this inscription: "Blessed are the pure in heart." In the fourth light, which is a memorial to George H. Birdsall, are a Crown and Palm Branches, to signify victory, with this verse: "This is the victory which overcometh the world, even our faith."

The triple light windows near the Choir entrance contain the monogram "I. H. S." in the center, a memorial to Pierre W. Briggs, John Hardman Briggs and Margaret R. Briggs. On one side is the Grape Vine, a memorial to Julia MacQuoid, and on the other the Rose, being in memory of Maurice C. Huffman. The I. H. S. is the symbol of Jesus, the Grape Vine recalls the words of John 15-1: "I am the True Vine;" and "I am the Rose of Sharon" refers to Cant. 2-1. On the Huffman memorial appears the following passage: "Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth."

The companion window, near the Broad Street entrance, shows a Sheaf of Wheat, referring to John 7-35 and 48: "I am the Bread of Life" (the glass being inscribed with this verse): the Pelican, symbolizing the death and resurrection of Christ, and the Olive Branch, typifying the faith of the just and the fruit of the Church. The latter section of the window contains the following inscription: "The path of the just is as a shining light."

As all of these windows have a special significance to the New Testament it was deemed advisable to reserve those in the second tier for the Old Testament, thus making the whole complementary to the Holy Bible, the Word of God. Hence, the two light windows near the choir show the symbol of Moses (a burning bush) and a symbol of Abraham (a knife and a pot of burning coals),



Rev. Addison W. Hayes Tablet

the latter being a memorial to Mrs. Elizabeth Halsted. The companion window in the second tier contains a symbol of Isaiah—a pair of tongs with a burning coal; and the sling and sword, a symbol of David.

The two-light windows over the side entrance contain a scroll on a shield with the following texts, one in each section: "Rejoice within your gates," and "Peace be within thy walls."

BROAD STREET WINDOWS

The small two-light windows near the side entrance display, on one, a Lantern on a Shield with the text: "And a little child shall lead them." On the other, a Dove, with the inscription: "Whatsoever things are true." The first window is a memorial to Mary J. Dickson and the latter in remembrance of Clarence W. Coleman.

The main window in the front of the building is a memorial to Matthias Clark (donor of the original plot, and upon which the new edifice stands), Alexander Clark, his son; Rev. Joseph Angelo Owen, and Daniel O. Affleck. The following emblems appear on the shields in the tracery: The Pomegranate, the Cross, having above it the word, "Fides"; the Anchor and the word "Spes," and the Heart, having over it the word "Caritas." The Pomegranate is emblematic of the richness of Divine Grace, which Grace is found within the Church, where abideth Faith, Hope and Charity—symbolized by the Cross, the Anchor and the Heart. The Owen window contains the inscriptions: "Pastor of this Church 1887-1890" and "God is Light."

The window erected in the wall dividing the Sunday School room from the church auditorium contains the following emblems: The Font, the Cross and the Crown. The first is in memory of Stephen S. Mapes, this section of the window having the following inscription: "Steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord." The Cross, a memorial to Robert Rutherford Sinclair, has beneath it this text: "Always abounding in the work of the Lord," while the section containing the Crown—a memorial to George H. Brown, has the text: "Fight the good fight of faith."

These emblems—the Font, the Cross and the Crown, are particularly appropriate for a window situated as this one is, for most

THIS TABLET IS ERECTED TO THE MEMORY OF
JOHN S. BURHANS JR. XXX
FAITHFUL STEWARD AND SUNDAY SCHOOL
TEACHER WHOSE UNUSUAL MUSICAL ABILITY
AS VOCALIST AND INSTRUMENTALIST WAS FOR
MANY YEARS CHEERFULLY GIVEN TO THE
SPIRITUAL ENRICHMENT OF THIS CHURCH.

THE REGISTRATION OF THIS ORGAN IS THE
RESULT OF HIS PLANNING AND STUDY.

John S. Burhans, Jr., Tablet

Christians receive their early instruction in the Sunday School and enter the Church through baptism, which the Font symbolizes. Our life in the church is to gain grace, which is obtained through the Cross and is symbolized by the Crown.

THE PULPIT AND TABLETS

The pulpit was erected and furnished as a memorial to Robert Rutherford Sinclair and a tablet to that effect was placed thereon. Later a table was added in memory of Susan Meeker Class and a baptismal font in memory of Austin Bowen Wick.

In the foyer is a tablet in memory of Cornelius Alexander Leveridge and his wife, Eleanor Jane Leveridge, upon whose lawn, at Broad and Chestnut Streets, the first services of this Church were held. This tablet also contains a memorial to Rev. William Perry, leader of the meeting.

The tablet in honor of Addison Wilbur Hayes was unveiled at the Sunday morning service on October 1st, 1922, on which occasion Dr. Hayes was present and spoke from the pulpit for the last time, being called to his eternal home only a few months later. The tablet is inscribed as follows:

On the eleventh anniversary of the dedication of this
edifice, the First Methodist Episcopal Church, at
Westfield, New Jersey, erects this tablet,
To the Honor of
Rev. Addison Wilbur Hayes, D. D., who was its Pastor
from 1907 to 1913. His ministry greatly enriched the
life of this parish and was fruitful of increased
spiritual interest and religious growth.

October 1st, 1922.

John S. Burhans, Jr., possessing rare musical talents which were consecrated to his Savior, is remembered by his associates in the

This tablet is erected in Honor of the Members of the
First Methodist Episcopal Church, its Sunday School and
Men's League, Who Served our Country in the
1917-World War-1918

SUPREME HONOR ROLL

NELSON S. ARCHBOLD
ERNEST F. DUNHAM

GEORGE E. BROWN
EDWARD HYSLIP

HONOR ROLL

FRANK S. ALPGER
HERBERT L. ABRAMS
ETHELBERT BACON
L. TOWNSEND BALDWIN
ADELE M. BEATTYS
FRANK L. BEATTYS
MELVIN E. BENNETT
C. ALBERT BISHOP
RAYMOND S. BRANNARD
SARGENT BUSH
WALLACE B. BUSH
T. SHERMAN CLASS
DOUGLAS B. CLASS

C. MELVILLE CLOTWORTHY
RUSSELL G. CLOTWORTHY
RALPH H. COLLINS
KENNETH DAVIES
ERNEST W. DAVIES
GEORGE A. ELDRIDGE
SPENCER D. EMBREE
JOHN S. FERGUSON
TRUMAN S. HALL
FRANK M. HAM
STEPHEN L. HAM
KENNETH R. HARE
WILBUR T. HARKRADER
THEODORE WICHEEN

STEPHEN J. HERBEN
G. FOSTER HERBEN
S. JOSEPH HERBEN
FRANCIS W. HOAG
ROBERT F. HOHENSTEIN
ROBERT J. LAGGREN
D. LAURA LAMBERT
LINDLEY H. LEGGETT
GEORGE H. LEGGETT
ALLEN MCGWIRE
ALBERT R. MANNER
GEORGE C. MANNER
ARTHUR J. MANNER
GEORGE W. YOUNG

CHARLES W. MARTIN
ELLIS H. MARTIN
RALPH E. MARTIN
RAY F. MAYHAM
THOMAS J. MOORE
EDITH J. MOREHOUSE
ALFRED W. MURPHY
HARRY S. PARKER
CHESTER B. PEARSALE
FERRIS R. PEARSALE
LEIGH M. PEARSALE
HERBERT S. POPE
HOWARD QUIPP
GEORGE W. YOUNG

WALLACE REED
RAYMOND ROTHROCK
AUBREY C. RUSSELL
ELMER E. SAUNDERS
B. WAYNE SEAMAN
EARL D. SKINNER
SIMEON H. SMITH
HAROLD C. TOWNLEY
HAROLD V. TRIVENEN
JOHN B. TIVELLE
WILLIAM T. TÖREN
FRANK C. VANDOREN
LORING WIGG

Church and Sunday School by a tablet placed upon the organ, which bears the following inscription:

This Tablet is erected to the memory of
John S. Burhans, Jr.,
faithful Steward and Sunday School Teacher, whose unusual musical ability as vocalist and instrumentalist was
for many years cheerfully given to the spiritual
enrichment of this Church.

The registration of this Organ is the result of his planning
and study.

The Tablet erected in honor of the members of our Church and its organizations who served in the World War was unveiled with appropriate services on Sunday evening, May 29th, 1921, before a large audience with Martin Wallberg Post, American Legion, and other patriotic organizations of Westfield as our guests.

Four of the young men gave their lives for their country. They were:

Nelson S. Archbold, Jr. who served overseas in the heavy artillery for twenty-seven months and died at Camp Dix on his return home.

George L. Brown, a machinist mate in the navy, died one week after his arrival at the Naval Air Station at Pauillac, France.

Ernest F. Dunham, of the exceptional medical replacement unit, died at Brest, France, three days after his arrival.

Edward Hyslip, of the 311th Regiment, 78th Division, was killed in action in the Argonne, October 30th, 1918.



Service flag which was displayed to the right of the pulpit during the World War. The field, white with blue stars. The border, red and the four stars at top gold, representing those who made the supreme sacrifice.

WORLD WAR SERVICE MEN AND WOMEN

Supreme Honor Roll

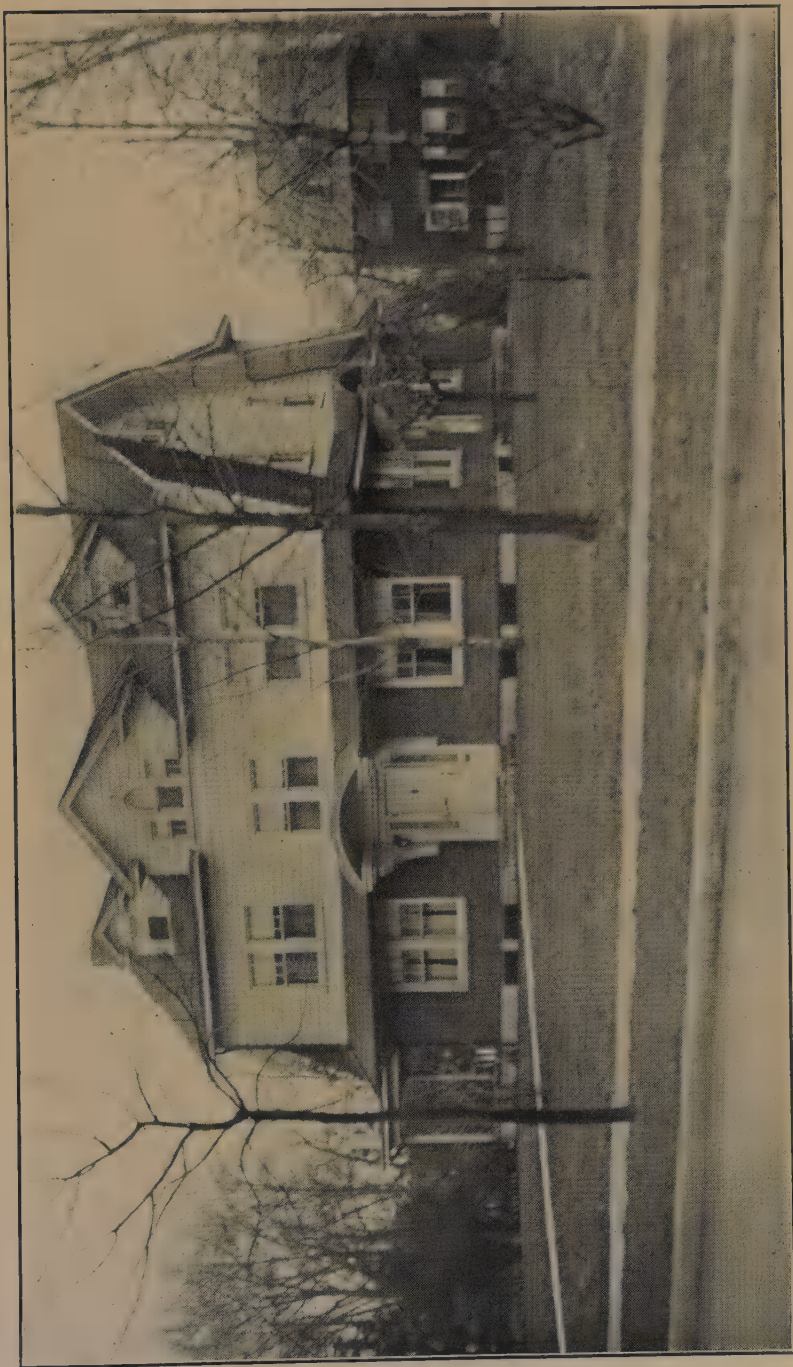
<u>Name</u>	<u>Arm of Service</u>	<u>Rank</u>
Nelson S. Archbold, Jr.	Army	Private
George E. Brown	Navy	Machinists Mate
Ernest F. Dunham	Army	Corporal
Edward Hyslip	Army	Private

Honor Roll

Frank S. Alleger	Navy	Gunners Mate
Herbert L. Abrams	Army	Sergeant
Ethelbert Bacon	Army	Private
I. Townsend Baldwin	Army	Private
Adele M. Beattys	Y. M. C. A.	Entertainer
Frank L. Beattys	Army	1st Lieutenant
Melvin F. Bennett	Army	Private
C. Albert Bishop	Army	Private
Raymond S. Brainerd	Ordnance	2nd Lieutenant
Sargent Bush	Army	2nd Lieutenant
Wallace B. Bush	Army	Private
T. Sherman Class	Army	Private
Douglas B. Class	Navy	Coxswain
C. Melville Clotworthy	Army	Sergeant
Russell G. Clotworthy	Signal Corp	Private
Ralph H. Collins	Army	1st Lieutenant
Kenneth Davies	Army	Corporal
Ernest W. Davies	Navy	Seaman
George A. Eldridge	Army	Captain
Spencer D. Embree	Chemical	1st Lieutenant
John S. Ferguson	Army	2nd Lieutenant
Truman S. Hall	Medical	Private
Frank M. Ham	Army	1st Lieutenant
Stephen L. Ham	Y. M. C. A.	Secretary
Kenneth R. Hare	Army	1st Lieutenant
Wilbur T. Harkrader	Navy	Dental Service
Rev. Stephen J. Herben	Red Cross	Captain
G. Foster Herben	Army	Private
S. Joseph Herben	Hospital	Sergeant
Francis W. Hoag	Navy	Seaman
Robert F. Hohenstein	Army	Sergeant

<u>Name</u>	<u>Arm of Service</u>	<u>Rank</u>
D. Laura Lambert	Red Cross	Secretary
Robert I. Laggren	Army	1st Lieutenant
Lindley H. Leggett	Medical	1st Lieutenant
George H. Leggett	Army	Corporal
Allen W. McGwire	Signal Corp	2nd Lieutenant
Albert R. Manner	Army	Private
George C. Manner	Army	Private
Arthur J. Manner	Army	Private
Charles W. Martin	Navy	Hospital Apprentice
Ellis H. Martin	Y. M. C. A.	Entertainer
Ralph E. Martin	Navy	Assistant Director
Ray E. Mayham	Chemical	Captain
Thomas J. Moore	Red Cross	
Edith T. Morehouse	Red Cross	Medical Physician
Alfred W. Murphy	Navy	Seaman
Harry S. Parker	Army	1st Sergeant
Chester B. Pearsall	Aviation	2nd Lieutenant
Ferris R. Pearsall	Army	Private
Leigh M. Pearsall	Army	Major
Herbert S. Pope	Navy	
Howard Quipp	Army	Private
Wallace Reed	Army	Private
Raymond Rothrock	Medical	Sergeant
Aubrey C. Russell	Aviation	1st Lieutenant
Elmer E. Saunders	Dental	1st Lieutenant
D. Wayne Seaman	Army	Sergeant
Earl D. Skinner	Army	2nd Lieutenant
Simeon H. Smith	Army	Private
Harold C. Townley	Navy	Electrician
Harold V. Trevenen	Aviation	2nd Lieutenant
John B. Trimble	Aviation	Cadet
Wilbur M. Van Doren	Marine	Private
Frank C. Van Doren	Army (French)	S. S. U. 585
Loring Wigg	Army	Private
Theodore Wichern	Army	Private
George W. Young	Army	1st Lieutenant

Subscriptions have been made for memorials to Mrs. James R. Ferris and Miss Harriet W. Pearsall, but the form which they are to take has not been definitely decided upon.



New parsonage—gift of Mr. and Mrs. Leigh M. Pearsall,—1923

The Standard Press
Westfield, N. J.

BX Westfield, N.J. First Methodist Episcopal
8481 Church.
W4 History of the First Methodist Episcopal
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1. Westfield, N.J. First Methodist Episcopal Church.
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